



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

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TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Sunday, 18 October 2026

***Let us all commit to contributing to the great mission of evangelisation, which is always a work of love, according to our own vocation and the gifts we have received.*— Pope Leo XIV**

One day a mother was in panic. Her little boy swallowed a coin. She called on her husband to 'Call the doctor immediately.' But the husband calmly replied, "We do not need a doctor. Let us call a priest instead." The mother was shocked to hear this: "Why? Is our boy going to die?" she asked. "No," he replied, 'But our parish priest has his way of getting money out of anybody.'

The Gospel this Sunday is talking about a coin. Jesus said to his critics, the Herodians and the Pharisees: "Show me a coin." The coin was a Roman coin used to pay taxes to the emperor. Jesus made this request because He was asked the question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" (Mt 22:17). Jesus was quick to notice the malice behind this simple question. That is why he retorted: "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites?"

He called them hypocrites because they were trying to trap him. If he answers "yes", they will tell the people that Jesus is a supporter of the Roman Empire. If he answers "no", they will accuse him of sedition and report him to the Roman authorities so that he would be imprisoned. He called them hypocrites also because it is not proper for Jews, especially the Pharisees, to have in their possession a Roman coin, for such would be an acknowledgement of Roman power over the Jewish people. Added to that, the coin has the blasphemous words inscribed on it: "Tiberius Caesar, Son of the Divine Augustus." Yet when he asked for a coin, the Pharisees readily gave him one. In fact, it is publicly known that they are already paying taxes to the emperor.

They laid a trap for Jesus, but he eluded it masterfully by saying: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God" (Mt 22:22). Give to God what belongs to God- It flows from the realization that we created in the image and likeness of God. God's image is stamped on our very being when we are created. This may have little effect for many people. It seems the image most of us live by today is money, power etc rather than what is stamped on our very being. It is sad to see some young people risk their lives due to anorexia or bulimia because the image presented is that of being very slim. Others will follow pop stars some of whom have died because of an overdose. With billions being spent yearly on advertising, we can be seduced into living according to an image created by outside agencies. It is in carrying the image of God, we belong to each other with duties of love. To give to others what belongs to others: respect, dignity... material blessing... justice in every sense of the term.

"The Caesars' Roman empire operated not so differently from today's neoliberal order – power was sought through military force for the purpose of acquiring more wealth and land. The digital world we live in is an age of misinformation. It is difficult to discern right from wrong. The allure of consumerism and materialism competes with our belonging to God. We were created to be relational people who thrive when we collaborate with one another".

What belongs to God is at the heart of the synodal journey of faith we are on. On each of our faces is the image and likeness of God, with which we were created. How do I reflect the face of God in my environment? A story is told of a tourist in Mexico: he offered a street child a dollar if he could say where God is. "I could give you two dollars if you could tell me where God is not," responded the child. - Sr. Geraldine Brake, MM

This World Mission Sunday marks a historic milestone—the 100th anniversary of its establishment by Pope Pius XI. Guided by Pope Leo XIV's centenary theme, "One in Christ, United in Mission," we are reminded that our call to evangelise flows directly from whose image we bear. Just as Mother Teresa recognised the divine inscription on the dying man in Kolkata, and Blessed Carlo Acutis refused to let the modern world photocopy his identity, we are challenged to live as original reflections of God's love. Pope Leo XIV, sharing his own journey as a missionary bishop in Peru, reminds us that the prayers and material support offered on this day directly transform vulnerable communities. By looking beyond the transactional demands of "Caesar's world" and giving our hearts fully to God, we unite with billions of believers globally becoming a community that radiates the irresistible fragrance of Christ's love to the ends of the earth. (Sources duly acknowledged)

God's blessings

Fr Vince



This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 16: 6, 8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First reading: Isaiah 45:1,4-6

I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:

'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting of
the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10

R: Give the Lord glory and honour.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R**

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R**

Second reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel: - Matthew 22:15-21

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 32: 18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



ALL SOULS DAY - Monday, 02 November 2026

Mass Times: 9:15am & 7:00pm

"It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." - 2 Maccabees 12:46

Photographs:

We invite you to bring a framed photo of your dearly departed (no larger than 15cm x 21cm) to be included in the Altar's remembrance display. Your photo is welcome to remain at church throughout November as part of our Remembrance Display. All framed photos are to be brought to the Church Meeting Room no later than **5:30pm on Friday, 30 October 2026**.



Candle Ceremony:

There will be a special candle ceremony at the start of each of the masses, where you will be invited to light **ONE candle per family**. Please **make sure you are present at the beginning of the mass to take part in the Candle Ceremony**.

Book of Life & Mass Intention Envelopes:

You are also invited to write down the names of your loved ones in the Book of Life at the entrance of the church. Throughout the month of November, the masses will be offered for our loved ones who have gone before us. Mass intention envelopes are also available at the entrance of the church - you can complete & drop these into the box provided.

May our loved ones rest in peace. Amen.

A Gentle Reminder: New Carpet



Hot drinks



Water



Baby bottles

To protect our new carpet, we kindly ask that **NO** hot drinks (eg. coffee or tea) be brought into the church. Water and baby bottles are welcome.

Thank you for your understanding and care for our church!

Holy Name of Mary Parish

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

Expression of Interest

We invite children from Kindergarten to Year 7 to take part in our Christmas Eve Role Play Nativity.

CHRISTMAS EVE
More details to come!

- ✦ **MULTIPLE ROLES TO FILL**
Acting and reading roles available.
- ✦ **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**
We welcome all children from Kindergarten to Year 7 to get involved.
- ✦ **INTERESTED?**
Please fill in the Google Form to express your interest. Tamara Markarian and Ela Torres will contact you shortly.

Let's celebrate the true meaning of Christmas together as a parish community.

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

Benny Adile	Al Alam Family	Rey Legaspi
George Asic	Michael Doherty	Maria-Trinidad Lim
Cristina Assuncao	Darryl Fernandes	Fr Michael Maroun
Mario Borsellino	Patrice Gelle	Romenda McGregor
Maree Buttenshaw	Daniel Hamilton	Joan Nayler
Kath Clinton	David Hilvano	Nelune Rajapakse
Margaret Constable	Klara Jakober	Rosemary Romeo
Patrick Coughlan	Janine	Ned Powlr
Den-Toll Family	Denise Kassiss	Kaz Seremet
Younis Family	Lorna Lagarto	Hayden Thomson

Recently Deceased

Mario Rubia

Anniversaries

Annie Coughlan
Isaac Moses
Resurrección Palad
Katie Saad
Arthur Towers

PARISH ROSTERS

17/18 October 2026

<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Tracy Samuel	Eli Ogrizek Michelle Acharya	Cristian A. Jacob K.	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Evelyn Noviza Carleen Borres Tyrone Wiratunga	Linda Tsang Grace Coco Sheila Tapiador
Sun 8.00am	Michael Majoor	Helen Wong Glenys Oxlee	Bridget R. Tara C.	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong		
Sun 10.00am	Anne Fernando	Edlynne Salvador Marco Tapiador	Avril L. Savannah S-F. Amelia I.	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade		Lawn & Garden Romeo Urqueza

24/25 October 2026

<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Ben Garcia	Sue & Len Farrugia	Cristian A. Clareese M.	Susan Boulous Kathy Saad	Evelyn Noviza Carleen Borres Danai Makoni	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon Doreen Tencaramedon Chandelle Culas
Sun 8.00am	Glenys Oxlee	Angela & Will Finnane	Jensen M. Judah M.	Eric & Lina Flores		Lawn & Garden Romeo Urqueza
Sun 10.00am	Lynnette Rodrigues	Sam Markarian George Lattouf	Alessandro C. Isabella N. Tashnie W. Tashen W.	Evelyn Artiaga Sheila Tapiador		

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

The Identity Crisis

During the 1990s, a successful corporate executive named Tom climbed the career ladder at a prestigious investment firm. He wore custom suits, drove luxury cars, and his entire identity was tied to his title and net worth. He justified working 80-hour weeks by telling himself he was providing a great life for his family.

One evening, his seven-year-old daughter, Maya, handed him a drawing she made at school. It showed her mother, her little brother, and their dog playing in the backyard. In the corner of the paper, separate from the family, was a small stick figure sitting behind a desk.

"Who is that?" Tom asked.

"That's you at work, Daddy," Maya replied innocently. "I wanted to make sure you were in the picture."

The drawing hit Tom like a lightning bolt. He looked at his luxury watch and his expensive briefcase. He realized he had spent years handing his time, energy, and mind over to the corporate "Caesar." He was giving his best self to a company that could replace him in a week, while leaving the scraps of his patience and presence for the family God had entrusted to him. Tom realized he had forgotten whose image he ultimately carried. He radically reshaped his lifestyle, set firm boundaries around his work hours, and chose to reinvest his heart where it truly belonged.



Interested in becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of faith, discovery, and transformation.

Whether you are exploring the Catholic faith for the first time or considering completing your Sacraments, you are welcome here.



Take the next step in your faith journey.
All are welcome!

To contact the RCIA Coordinator, Nazli Guler, please call 0426 243 016.

We look forward to seeing you!



THANK YOU PARISH VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION Thursday, 05 November 2026 at 6pm in the School Hall.

Fr. Vince warmly invites volunteers from our various parish ministries to join him for a wonderful celebration. An opportunity to enjoy good food & great company!

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2026
Lynn Rodrigues 0439 115 450
OR Nancy Grugan 0434 541 287

Join Us for Our Monthly Parish Lunch!

Dear Parishioners,

We're excited to invite you to our Monthly Parish Lunch! This is a wonderful opportunity to gather once a month to enjoy

great company and good food.

Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

When: Sunday 18 Oct. - 11:30am

Sunday 29 Nov. - 11:30am

Sunday 13 Dec. - 11:30am

Where: The Family Inn

Everyone is welcome—bring your family and friends!

This initiative aims to foster fellowship and strengthen our community ties.

For more details and/or to RSVP

Contact: Allison on 0411 013 032.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue - Wed - Thu - Fri - Sat 9:15 am

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Every Wednesday 7:00pm

ROSARY at 3:00pm on the last Saturday of every month at Ermington Shopping Centre (near the Post Office).

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am

ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm

Saturday 8:30 am

BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month 11:30 am

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu
Parish Priest

Cecilia
Parish Secretary
Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri
9am to 4pm

Deacon Leon
Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator:	Lynnette Rodrigues
Catechists Coordinator:	Diane O'Shea
Childrens Liturgy Coordinator:	Allison Markarian
Lectors Coordinator:	Glenys Oxlee
Senior Server Coordinator:	Anton Massillamany
Finance Chairman:	Ron Della Vedova
St Vincent De Paul President:	Ron Della Vedova
Rydalmen Coordinator:	Mark Bannister
Social Celebrations Coordinator:	Nancy Grugan
Parish Pastoral Council Chair:	Luke Homann

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Mary's Primary School
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116
Ph: (02) 8844 5700
Email: stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Richard Blissenden

St. Patrick's Marist College
171 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117
Ph: (02) 8841 7900
Email: stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Paul Ryan